

In the Claims

The following listing of the claims replaces all previous listings of the claims.

1.-24. (Canceled)

C 25. (Currently Amended) A pouch for use in preparing coffee ~~in a coffee machine having a well section configured to receive the pouch therein, the well section including a bottom with a plurality of radially extending, channel-shaped grooves,~~ comprising:

said pouch being formed from filter paper and holding coffee grounds; and
said pouch having a pill-shaped central portion, said central portion being surrounded by a flat annular sealing portion;

wherein a coffee machine has a well section configured to receive the pouch therein, the well section including a bottom with a plurality of radially extending, channel-shaped grooves, and

wherein the central portion of said pouch is configured to rest on non-grooved portions of the bottom of the well section whereby, during use, water fed to the top of the pouch can only flow out of the pouch where the pouch does not contact the bottom.

26. (Currently Amended) The pouch according to claim 25 wherein a bottom of the pouch has a shape substantially corresponding to the shape of the well section ~~of the container~~.

27. (Previously Added) The pouch according to claim 25 wherein the pouch comprises a disk-shaped top sheet and a disk-shaped bottom sheet which are interconnected adjacent their longitudinal edges, the interconnected parts of the top and bottom sheets forming said annular sealing portion.

28. (Previously Amended) The pouch according to claim 27 wherein the dimensions of the bottom disk-shaped sheet from a center of the sheet to the annular sealing portion correspond to the dimensions of the well section.

29. (Previously Added) The pouch according to claim 25 wherein the annular sealing portion has dimensions substantially corresponding to the dimensions of an annular bottom part of said container.

30. (Currently Amended) The pouch according to claim 25 wherein the container well section includes an inner space having a diameter that is approximately equal to the diameter of the pouch.

31. (Previously Amended) The pouch according to claim 25 wherein the diameter of said central portion of said pouch is about 61 mm.

32. (Previously Added) The pouch of claim 25 wherein the diameter of a coffee bed formed in the pouch is approximately equal to 61 mm.

C
33. (Currently Amended) A pouch for use in preparing coffee by the passage of water therethrough in a coffee machine having a well section configured to receive the pouch therein, the well section including a bottom with a plurality of radially extending, channel-shaped grooves, comprising:

said pouch being formed from filter paper and holding coffee grounds; and
said pouch having a pill-shaped central portion, said central portion being surrounded by a flat annular sealing portion;

wherein a coffee machine has a well section configured to receive the pouch therein, the well section including a bottom with a plurality of radially extending, channel-shaped grooves;

wherein said pouch comprising a pair of substantially conforming conforms to the well section and oppositely disposed disk-shaped portions, interconnected at said annular sealing portion; and

wherein the central portion of said pouch is configured to rest on non-grooved portions of the bottom of the well section whereby, during use, water fed to the top of the pouch can only flow out of the pouch where the pouch does not contact the bottom.

34. (Previously Added) A pouch according to claim 25 wherein said central portion comprises a ground coffeebed.
35. (Previously Added) A pouch according to claim 25 wherein the diameter of said central portion is about 61 mms.
36. (Previously Added) A pouch according to claim 34 wherein the diameter of said coffeebed is about 61 mms.
37. (Currently Amended) A pill shaped pouch manufactured from filtering paper and filled with ground coffee for preparing coffee in a coffee machine whereby, wherein the pouch is arranged to be used in a container of the coffee machine having a bowl-shaped inner space bounded by a bottom having at least one outlet opening and a vertical sidewall wherein the bottom consists of an outer horizontally directed annular bottom part bounding the sidewall and an inner saucer-shaped bottom part bounding an inner edge of the annular bottom part, the saucer-shaped bottom part adjacent the annular bottom part sloping downwards in a direction away from the sidewall, wherein the diameter of the inner space of the container is approximately equal to 74 mm, and the diameter of the inner saucer-shaped bottom part is approximately 61 mm and that the pouch comprises a disk-shaped top sheet and a disk-shaped bottom sheet which are interconnected adjacent their longitudinal edges, the interconnected parts of the top and bottom sheets forming an annular sealing seam wherein the diameter of the pouch is approximately equal to 74 mm, the diameter of a coffee bed formed in the pouch is approximately equal to 61 mm, the annular sealing seam has dimensions substantially corresponding to the dimensions of the annular bottom part and wherein dimensions of the disk-shaped bottom sheet from a center of the sheet to the annular sealing seam correspond to dimensions of the saucer-shaped bottom part wherein a bottom of the pouch which bottom is formed by the bottom sheet, comprises a shape substantially corresponding to the shape of the bottom of the container.
38. (New) A coffee pouch for preparing coffee in a coffee machine, the pouch comprising:
(a) a top, disk-shaped filtering sheet;

(b) a bottom, disk-shaped filtering sheet;

(c) the top filtering sheet and the bottom filtering sheet connected at a peripheral sealing seam, together, the top filtering sheet, the bottom filtering sheet and the peripheral sealing seam defining a pouch interior;

(d) a volume of ground coffee present in and filling the pouch interior; the pouch configured to withstand the passage of hot water therethrough and a high pressure therein;

whereby upon contact with hot water, the ground coffee becomes saturated and swells forming gases and a coffee extract, thereby creating a high pressure within the pouch; the saturated top filtering sheet, bottom filtering sheet, and peripheral sealing seam inhibiting escape of the gases and coffee extract from the pouch until the high pressure within the pouch forces the coffee extract and gases from the pouch through the bottom filtering sheet resulting in a coffee beverage.

39. (New) A method of making coffee, the method comprising:

- (a) providing a coffee pouch comprising:
- (i) a top, disk-shaped filtering sheet;
 - (ii) a bottom, disk-shaped filtering sheet;
 - (iii) the top filter sheet and the bottom filtering sheet connected at a peripheral sealing seam, together, the top filtering sheet, the bottom filtering sheet and the peripheral sealing seam defining a pouch interior; and
 - (iv) a volume of ground coffee present in and filling the pouch interior;
- (b) penetrating hot water through the top filtering sheet into the coffee pouch to saturate the ground coffee and thus expand the ground coffee to form gases and a coffee extract thus increasing the pressure within the pouch interior;
- (c) sealing the top filtering sheet, bottom filtering sheet and peripheral sealing seam to inhibit escape of the gases and coffee extract from the pouch and inhibiting the passage of hot water through the pouch but not through the ground coffee;
- (d) releasing the coffee extract and the gases from the expanded coffee; and
- (e) collecting a coffee beverage including the coffee extract.